

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 2, 2003

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 18, 2003

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 1, 2003

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 23, 2003

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 10, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 909

Introduced by Assembly Member Reyes

February 20, 2003

An act to add and repeal Section 2898 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to telecommunications.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 909, as amended, Reyes. Telecommunications: local and long-distance service.

Existing law empowers the Public Utilities Commission to regulate telecommunications services. The Telecommunications Customer Service Act of 1993 requires the commission to require telephone corporations to provide certain customer services to telecommunications customers, and authorizes the commission to require telephone corporations to provide additional services.

This bill, until January 1, 2007, would require that every incumbent local exchange carrier and competitive local exchange carrier provide, upon request, to customers electing to purchase a service package for both local and long-distance service, *or for customers that buy a set*

number of minutes for a fixed price, a breakdown separately showing the estimated charge for local telephone service and the total monthly minutes of use in the billing period listed under one telephone number for toll and long-distance service. Because violation of an order, decision, rule, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission is a crime under existing law, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program by creating a new crime.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

3 (a) The telecommunications industry is evolving towards
4 offering to consumers various package options, which include
5 local, regional, and long-distance service.

6 (b) Consumers have a right to make intelligent and informed
7 decisions relative to what telecommunications services they wish
8 to purchase.

9 (c) Consumers are able to make intelligent and informed
10 decisions relative to what telecommunications services they wish
11 to purchase, only when they are able to determine how much they
12 are being charged for local and long distance calling.

13 SEC. 2. Section 2898 is added to the Public Utilities Code, to
14 read:

15 2898. (a) Every incumbent local exchange carrier and
16 competitive local exchange carrier shall provide, upon request, to
17 customers electing to purchase any service package that includes
18 both local and long-distance service, ~~a breakdown separately or for~~
19 ~~customers that buy a set number of minutes for a fixed price, a~~
20 ~~breakdown showing the estimated charge for local telephone~~
21 ~~service and the total monthly minutes of use~~ *minutes of use in the*

1 *billing period* listed under one telephone number for *toll and*
2 long-distance service.

3 (b) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1,
4 2007, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute,
5 that is enacted before January 1, 2007, deletes or extends that date.

6 SEC. 3. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
7 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
8 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school
9 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or
10 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty
11 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of
12 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within
13 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
14 Constitution.

